

Infrastructure: Safety, modernization underway



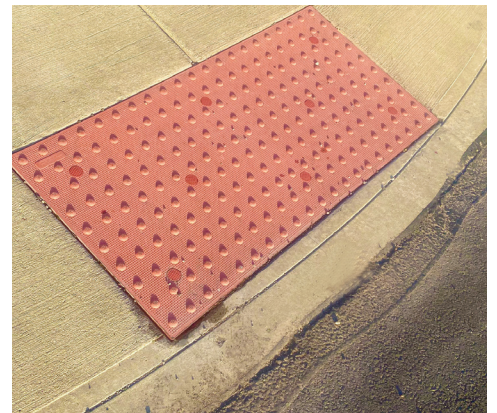
The City of Dayton has many initiatives underway to replace or repair infrastructure and to make streets safer. Two of these efforts have taken significant steps forward in early 2023.

On Feb. 15, the City Commission approved an agreement to begin the work involved in replacing or repairing curbs, curb ramps, and sidewalks in several targeted areas. The \$450,000 contract will provide for new mapping and documentation of the conditions of these important infrastructure elements in areas specified by the Dayton Recovery Plan: Five Oaks, Wolf Creek, Old North Dayton, Miami Chapel, Edgemont, and Carillon. The survey results are expected in July, and construction plans will be determined after their review. The City of Dayton Department of Public Works will oversee the contract. Project funding is provided through the Dayton Recovery Plan's Improving Our Neighborhoods initiative, which focuses on City-led projects that support healthier lifestyles through neighborhood revitalization.

The City of Dayton will also receive a Safe Streets and Roads for All grant from the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT). The \$160,000 federal award will be supplemented



by \$40,000 in City funds to develop a comprehensive action plan with a goal of eliminating roadway fatalities in Dayton. Development of the plan will involve residents and stakeholders throughout the city.



Once the plan is complete, the City will go about seeking funds to make its measures a reality. Dayton is one of 13 communities in Ohio to successfully apply for a USDOT Safe Streets for All grant.

DFD recognizes extraordinary service

Over 300 Dayton Fire Dept. employees and family members attended a November 2022 awards ceremony marking extraordinary service over the past three years. Awards were given to DFD members going above and beyond the call of duty in 28 emergency incidents involving rescues from burning buildings and rushing river water, resuscitation from cardiac arrest, and other high-risk, life-threatening situations. Recognitions included Certificates of Commendation, Lifesaver Awards, Distinguished Service Awards, and the Medal of Honor, the department's highest award for bravery. The ceremony was also attended Mayor Jeffrey Mims and Commissioner Matt Joseph. Awards were presented by Chief Jeff Lykins (photos, left).



Firefighter Brandon Workman received the Medal of Honor, along with Firefighter Daniel Wolfangel, for their rescue of an unconscious victim from a housefire in May of 2022.



Firefighter Nathan Seeberg received a Certificate of Commendation for his actions at a high-risk medical emergency situation in January of 2021.



City Commission

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Mayor Jeffrey J. Mims

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Customer Services

Service Requests

937-333-4800

Download/use the
Dayton Delivers app

Water/Utility Billing

937-333-3550

PayDaytonWater.com

Building Permits/Inspection

937-333-3883

Stay Connected

DaytonOhio.gov

FlyDayton.com

DaytonWater.org



Court self-help center: A free community resource

The Dayton Municipal Court and Clerk of Court's Self-Help Center is celebrating its second anniversary. The Self-Help Center began as a joint initiative between Judge Dierdre Logan and former Clerk of Court Mark Owens as a quiet space for attorneys and self-represented litigants to complete and organize their forms before filing.

Clerk of Court Marty Gehres has expanded the help center by hiring a full-time employee, Self-Help Center Coordinator Kaylyn Drodge, to assist visitors with procedural questions, as well as those with additional language, mobility, or learning barriers.

"After taking office, I saw a real opportunity to break down barriers to justice between the public and the courts. As Clerk, it is my top priority to help serve the people who need access to the law," Gehres said.

The Self-Help Center has also increased community outreach by participating in legal aid clinics and helping post common questions on the Dayton Municipal Clerk of Court Facebook page.



Coordinator Kaylyn Drodge assists a customer

The center can provide general information over many different topics. Some of the most common include landlord-tenant questions, small claims, and steps to get a valid driver license and driving privileges.

"Our office recognized the growing need to meet people where they are and bring the resources of our office into the community. So, we have expanded our outreach to record sealing and driver's license clinics throughout the Dayton area. Now, filings can be accepted on-site, and the resources of our office can be shared throughout the

community," Gehres added.

The Municipal Court Self-Help Center is located on the first floor of the Dayton Municipal Court, at 301 W. Third St. It is equipped with a computer, printer, pre-printed forms, and law-related material, all at no cost.

The center's hours are 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. You can reach Self-Help Center Coordinator Kaylyn Drodge at 937-333-4483 for more information.

The Clerk's office cannot offer legal advice. If you need legal advice, you may consult an attorney.

Welcome Dayton: Updates for 2023

Welcome Dayton, the City of Dayton program offering advocacy and resources for immigrants and refugees, is coordinated by the City's Division of Community Engagement. Dayton was the nation's first official Welcoming City (as declared by the national organization Welcoming America).

New American Employer Roundtable:

Dayton-area employers and hiring managers are invited to learn how to help meet employment and talent needs through the region's New American workforce. A local immigration attorney will address immigration requirements and answer questions.

June 8, 8-11:30 a.m.,
Montgomery County Business Solutions Ctr.

Sept. 14, 9 a.m. -12 p.m.,
Job Fair, St. John's, 515 E. Third St.

Oct. 18, 12-4 p.m.,
Montgomery County Business Solutions Ctr.

Miami Valley Community ID Drive:

The Miami Valley Community ID Card provides reliable identification for those who may not have access to or have difficulty accessing government-issued forms of ID (since the first MVCID Drive in Oct. 2021, 535 IDs have been issued). Locations to be determined, all times 9:30 a.m.-1 p.m.: May 13, July 8, Sept 9, Nov 4.

World Refugee Day Celebration:

June 10, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.,
location to be announced.

For more information,
call 937-333-3679
or go to welcomedayton.org.



Dayton Recovery Plan: Investment, Inclusion, Imagination



The Dayton Recovery Plan, the City of Dayton's community-focused strategy for recovering from the COVID-19 pandemic while investing for the future, began to make a big difference in 2022.

The plan is funded by Dayton's \$138 million share of the federal American Rescue Plan Act, the largest grant in Dayton's history, with goals of disrupting multi-generational poverty and disparities while enhancing Dayton as a community attracting ongoing private and public investment.

By the close of 2022, 28 projects and initiatives were approved by the City Commission for nearly \$19 million in funding, including non-profit community service programs and small businesses. During 2021, the City had solicited applications from community groups and local businesses to apply for a portion of the recovery funds to address community needs. There were 93 eligible applications, with 42 recommended for potential funding.

Through February, an additional \$4.47 million in support of 13 projects has been approved by the City Commission in 2023.

The plan's priority areas were identified following extensive community input in 2020 and 2021 (see page 5 for an illustration of the six priority areas).

Key action points include:

- Demolition of 655 blighted structures (part of an effort to demolish a total of approximately 1,100 blighted structures);
- Housing construction and renovation in targeted areas;
- Sidewalk/curb repairs and tree lawn upgrades in targeted areas;



Last year's June 21 razing of an unsalvageable house on Chapel Street was the ceremonial launch of an effort to demolish approximately 1,100 blighted structures (with 665 funded by the Dayton Recovery Plan).

- Park enhancements and eight additional spray parks (in addition to park improvements made possible by the voter-approved Issue 9 in 2016);
- Support for Black- and Brown-owned businesses, economic development and job creation;
- Investment in essential City

services and City facilities.

The plan includes a focus on targeted areas: Wolf Creek, Edgemont, Carillon, Miami Chapel, Five Oaks, Old North Dayton, Twin Towers and the Wright Factory Site in West Dayton, as well as other special investments across the city.



Supporting Black- and Brown-owned businesses is one of the Dayton Recovery Plan's means of supporting economic recovery. The 6888 Kitchen, a food industry incubator, held its groundbreaking ceremony on Dec. 12, 2022.



Dayton Recovery Plan

A strong start in 2022

\$138
million in
federal
ARPA funds

£
Nearly \$19 million
distributed in 2022 to
28 transformational
projects
£



Dayton Recovery Plan supports six priority areas

\$55
million

for improving
neighborhoods
(\$5,505,024
distributed
in 2022)

\$21.5
million

enhancing
critical
services
(\$100,000
distributed
in 2022)

\$10.7
million

for catalyzing
economic
recovery
(\$7,000,000
distributed
in 2022)

\$7.6
million

supporting
Brown and
Black
businesses
(\$750,000
distributed
in 2022)

\$7.1
million

aiding
community
and small
business
recovery
(\$5,630,300
distributed
in 2022)

\$33
million

City of Dayton
revenue
replacement

For more information, go to daytonohio.gov/drp

Choose and share your news



Choose: How do you keep up with information from the City of Dayton between editions of the Connections newsletter? The Dayton Extra email newsletter is an easy way to fill the information gap, and you determine the topics and frequency. Choose from subjects including recreation/ events, neighborhoods, police/fire news, and a lot more, delivered weekly or just a few times per year to your email in-box. To get started, go to daytonohio.gov/daytonextra. If you're already a subscriber, you can update your preferences by following the prompts in your next edition.



nextdoor

Share: Communicate with many of your neighbors by using Nextdoor, a free online platform where you can post and read news about events, meetings and neighborhood concerns, inquire about or recommend services such as lawn care and home repair, share lost pet alerts, and more. You can explore Nextdoor at nextdoor.com/city/dayton--oh/.



First Flight: Avelo arrives at DAY

Say hello to Avelo! One of the world's newest airlines completed its inaugural flight out of Dayton International Airport (DAY) in January, with nonstop service to Orlando International Airport.

"We're very excited to offer our passengers another affordable option for their travel needs with Avelo Airlines—and we're thrilled our community responded in such a big way by selling out the first flight," said City of Dayton Director of Aviation Gil Turner.

Houston-based Avelo was founded with a mission of offering a smooth travel experience at affordable fares that inspire people to travel. Avelo Chairman and CEO Andrew Levy is excited to offer Avelo's unique service to the Dayton community and believes Dayton is a perfect fit for the airline.

"Dayton—it's time to say hello to Avelo! We're excited to start travel to Orlando with more affordability and ease than ever," said Levy. "We tend to find that close-to-home airports like Dayton offer passengers a smoother travel experience overall—one with shorter commutes, shorter lines, and many other benefits that match perfectly with our mission."

Go to flydayton.com for more information.



Mayor Jeffrey J. Mims, DAY staff and Avelo Airlines employees celebrate the new Dayton service.

Spring is here—time for a water check-in

It's beginning to look a lot like spring! Temperatures are rising and days are getting longer, which mean it's time to tackle the seasonal to-do list. From outdoor gardening to indoor cleaning, many springtime jobs involve water. The City of Dayton Department of Water has tips and reminders to help get ready and make your tasks easier.

Prepare for seasonal watering

- First, if your outdoor spigots have their own water valves, make sure the valves are turned on (if, for example, you turned off the outdoor water supply to prevent pipes from freezing during the winter).
- Once the water is turned on, check the outdoor spigot for leaks (very cold weather can lead to cracks or leaks).
- Garden hoses can also crack if not drained before winter storage (or just from age); check yours early in the season. Once the hose is in use, adding an auto shut-off nozzle can help manage water use.

Water wisely

- When watering plants, direct the water into the soil and roots instead of spraying water on foliage.
- Drought-tolerant, heat-tolerant plants are available at garden centers and nurseries (or may already be present in your yard or garden), to help you water responsibly.
- If you water the lawn in summer, avoid the hottest times of the day to prevent excessive evaporation.

Help keep storm drains clear

As seasons change and outdoor activity ramps up, it's important to keep an eye on the storm drains (also known as catch basins) in your neighborhood. Clear drains help keep the stormwater system working. (If there is a problem with storm drains in your neighborhood, please call 937-333-4915.)

- Lawn debris such as leaves, clippings and litter can contribute to storm drain obstruction and lead to flooding.
- When mowing and maintaining your lawn, blowing grass clippings back onto the lawn instead of into street helps keep storm drains clear.
- Because the stormwater system drains into area waterways, it's very important to keep pollutants such as oil, fuel, solvents, cleaning fluids, fertilizers, etc., away from storm drains (and to prevent run-off from homes and businesses whenever possible).

Water-wise indoors

- If you have a dishwasher, using it is the water-responsible thing to do.
- Check your toilet(s) for internal leaks, which can waste many gallons per day. (Drop a dye tablet or food coloring in the tank to see if the water in the bowl changes color. If it does, the toilet needs some replacement hardware in the tank).
- Using simpler, less-toxic cleaning solutions (such as vinegar, baking soda, plant-based products, etc.) can reduce the amount of rinsing needed.
- For more ways to be water-wise at home, go to <https://www.epa.gov/watersense>.



Waste, recycling, and bulk GUIDELINES

Thank you for helping City of Dayton Division of Waste Collection crews pick up your garbage and recycling safely and on schedule. Please observe these guidelines:

- Have your roll-out container or bulk items out by 6:30 a.m. the day of your scheduled collection.
- Place containers at least 5 feet away from any object (cars, mailboxes, trees, etc.). Always allow 3 feet between containers. Place containers at curb (or alley) with handles facing house.
- Keep yard waste separated from other collection items (it must be cut and tied in 4-foot lengths no larger than 18 inches in diameter).
- Dispose of hazardous waste and recycle electronics through the Montgomery County Solid Waste District. Go to mcswd.org or call 937-225-4999.
- Dispose of green debris (leaves, branches, grass clippings, tree limbs, etc.) at Dayton's Green Landfill, 2670 Wagner Ford Rd. Bundles are OK, but no plastic bags or ties, please! More information: daytonohio.gov/greendebbris.
- To schedule a bulk pickup, call 937-333-4800 or go to daytonohio.gov/daytondelivers.

Download the Dayton Collects app for reminders on collection schedules. Go to daytonohio.gov/daytoncollects for more information about waste and recycling collection.

It's here: Live chat customer service

Chat with City of Dayton representatives about water service, waste collection, street repair, streetlights, housing issues, and more. Access live chat at daytonohio.gov and the Dayton Delivers app, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. (You may also submit a request after hours.) Agents cannot accept payments via live chat.



Free tax preparation

Dayton families and workers may be eligible to receive free tax return preparation leading to federal tax credits boosting tax refunds. Go to daytonohio.gov/eitc or call 937-913-2000 for more information on eligibility and a list of tax preparation locations in the area. Volunteer tax preparers are IRS-trained. The service continues through April 15.



Urban Adventures Summer Camp

Registration begins April 3 for June 5-July 28 camps (ages 3-12) at the Northwest and Lohrey Recreation Centers, 9 a.m.-4 p.m., before/after care at 7:30 a.m. and ending 5:30 p.m. \$80/week. Register at the centers. Spring/Summer recreation information at daytonohio.gov/recreation.



Dayton is hiring

Go to daytonohio.gov/jobs to see the list of opportunities offered by the City of Dayton.